

## AMENDMENTS

### In the Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) The prosthesis as claimed in claim 11, having a height in a caudo-cranial direction relative to ~~[[an]]~~ the orientation of the prosthesis in an implanted position in portions of the prosthesis configured to engage ~~[[the]]~~ lateral edge zones of the corresponding end plates of the adjacent vertebral bodies approximately equal to a height of the intervertebral space at the location of the edge zones, and having a height in portions of the prosthesis configured to engage ~~[[the]]~~ central ~~area~~ areas of the corresponding end plates greater than a height of the intervertebral space at the location of the central ~~area~~ areas.
3. (Currently Amended) The prosthesis as claimed in claim 11 or 2, wherein the upper surface and the lower ~~prosthesis surface of the prosthesis~~ [[is]] are provided with elevations and depressions in the portions configured to engage the central area areas of the corresponding end plates of the adjacent vertebral bodies but not in the portions configured to engage the lateral edge area zones of the corresponding end plates.
4. (Currently Amended) The prosthesis as claimed in claim 11 or 2, wherein the upper surface and the lower ~~prosthesis surface of the prosthesis~~ is toothed in the portions configured to engage a central area of the corresponding end plates of the adjacent vertebral bodies.
5. (Currently Amended) The prosthesis as claimed in claim 11 or 2, wherein an angle of inclination of a ~~portion of a lower prosthesis surface that is configured to engage the edge zones of the end plate surfaces in the frontal plane relative to a main direction of extent of the prosthesis relative to an orientation of the prosthesis in an implanted position~~ the lateral extent of the lower surface relative to the transverse plane is at least 20°.
6. (Currently Amended) The prosthesis as claimed in claim 11 or 2, wherein an angle of inclination of a portion of ~~[[an]]~~ the upper ~~prosthesis surface of the prosthesis~~ that is configured to engage [[the]] lateral edge zones of the corresponding end plate surfaces of the adjacent

vertebral bodies relative to a main direction of extent of the prosthesis relative to an orientation of the prosthesis in an implanted position the transverse plane is at least 0°.

7-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The intervertebral joint prosthesis as claimed in claim 11 or 2, wherein ~~the surface of at least one of its cover plates, whose size is dimensioned to substantially utilize the naturally provided surface extent of the intervertebral space, has a central area which extends approximately parallel to the main plane of extent of the cover plate, and, adjoining this in the lateral extent of the lower surface is located in a dorsolateral direction, a surface beveled relative to the central area~~ of the prosthesis relative to an orientation of the prosthesis in an implanted position.

10. (Currently Amended) An instrument set configured for inserting the prosthesis as claimed in claim 11 or 2, comprising a plurality of rasps adapted to the configuration of the prosthesis and configured to prepare surfaces of the corresponding end plates of the adjacent vertebral body surfaces bodies to accommodate the prosthesis shape,

the rasps being designed such that the rasps remove material from ~~[[the]]~~ a central area and ~~[[the]]~~ edge zones of the corresponding end plate surfaces except for ~~[[the]]~~ a dorsal part of the edge zones.

11. (Currently Amended) An intervertebral joint prosthesis configured for implantation into an intervertebral space between adjacent cervical vertebral bodies, which intervertebral space is delimited by end plates of the adjacent vertebral bodies ~~whose end plate surfaces whose surfaces laterally adjacent to a substantially flat central area include edge zones that are more strongly curved than the substantially flat central area,~~

wherein the prosthesis comprises an upper cover plate with an upper surface and a lower cover plate with a lower surface, at least one of the prosthesis surfaces is the upper surface and the lower surface being configured to bear on [[a]] corresponding vertebral body end plate surface plates of the adjacent vertebral bodies, the prosthesis surface having a lateral extent

~~reaching into the edge zones of the corresponding end plate surface and having a convex curvature in a frontal plane greater than a curvature of the corresponding vertebral body end plate surface, and~~

~~wherein the prosthesis has a width in a lateral to medial direction that is at least 1.5 times as great as its depth in an anterior to posterior direction in the intervertebral space, the width and depth~~ the lower surface has a central extent and a lateral extent in a coronal plane, the lateral extent extending from the central extent to a lateral side of the lower cover plate, the central extent protruding downward beyond the lateral extent, and the lateral extent having an incline relative to a transverse plane, the coronal plane and the transverse plane being taken relative to an orientation of the prosthesis in an implanted position.

12. (Currently Amended) The prosthesis as claimed in claim 6, wherein the angle of inclination ~~of the portion of the upper prosthesis surface that is configured to engage the edge zones of the end plate surfaces relative to the main direction of extent of the prosthesis relative to an orientation of the prosthesis in an implanted position~~ is 10 to 30°.

13. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis as claimed in claim 11, wherein the prosthesis has a width that is more than 1.63 times as great as its depth.